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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 02396 251132Z

47
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 /106 W
---------- 077526
R 251100Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8226
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC
CDR USSAG NKP
CDR JCRC NKP

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 2396

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: PROCESSING THAI PWS - LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 1359 (NOTAL)

REFTEL REPORTS POSSIBLILITY THAT LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT (LPF) MAY RELEASE 640 SGU (THAI VOLUNTEERS) PERSONNEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF SEPTEMBER 14 PROTOCOL. COORDINATION WITH THE SGU CONTROL HEADQUARTERS, THAILAND (HQ 333), INDICATES THAT THE FOLLOWING CONCEPT REGARDING SGU PW RECEPTION AND PROCESSING HAS BEEN DEVELOPED:

A) SGU MIA LIST (NAME, RANK, SERIAL NUMBER, DATE AND PLACE OF LOSS) HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT (RTG) AND CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE ROYAL LAO GOVERNMENT (RLG). (NOTE: SGUS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN LAOS ARE CURRENTLY LISTED AS MIAS SINCE THERE EXIST NO POSITIVE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT PW OR DIED-IN-CAPTIVITY (TIC) CLASSIFICATIONS.)

B. SGU NAM PHONG TRAINING CAMP THAILAND IS DESIGNATED

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 02396 251132Z

AS THE PW RECEPTION AND PROCESSING CENTER. NAM

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

PHONG PROCESSING WILL INCLUDE MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT; SEPARATION AND PAY PROCEDURES, AND INTELLIGENCE DEBRIEFINGS TO INCLUDE QUERIES RE U.S. PW/MIA INFORMATION.

C) ASSUMING RELEASE WILL BE EFFECTED UNDER AUSPICIES OF THE JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCCIA), IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XVIII(B) OF SEPTEMBER 14 PROTOCOL, RLG WILL RECEIVE SGU PWS AND ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ONWARD MOVEMENT TO RECEPTION CENTERS.

D) THERE WILL BE NO OFFICIAL THAI GOVERNMENT PRESENCE AT PLACE OF SGU PW TRANSFER IN LAOS; THAI EMBASSY VIENTIANE WILL NOT BE INVOLVED IN SGU RECEPTION. HOWEVER, THAI EMBASSY VIENTIANE WILL BECOME IN-VOLVED WITH RECEPTION OF THAI CITIZENS (OTHER THAN SGU PERSONNEL) WHO MAY BE RELEASED BY LPF. (NOTE: SOME 16 THAI CITIZENS, OTHER THAT SGU PERSONNEL, WERE LOST DURING PERIOD 1963-69 AND MAY SURFACE AS PWS.

WHITEHOUSE

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, MIA, MILITARY PERSONNEL, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI02396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740063-0646
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740316/aaaaapgc.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 1359 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROCESSING THAI PWS - LAOS
TAGS: MOPS, PGOV, PFOR, LA, LPF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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